

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6377

BILL NUMBER: HB 1311

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 3, 2009

BILL AMENDED: Feb 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Hearing Aids Program.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Goodin

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill establishes the Hearing Aid Fund to be administered by the Department of Education to pay for hearing aids for school corporation students. It requires the Department of Education to establish a Hearing Aid Refurbishing Program. The bill makes an appropriation.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008 (retroactive).

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill establishes the Hearing Aids for School Corporation Students Program. The program is established to provide funding to purchase hearing aids for hearing-impaired students. The bill appropriates \$3 M *from* the Higher Education Commission operating account to the Hearing Aid Fund in FY 2009. In addition to the \$3 M from the Higher Education Commission operating account, the bill also annually appropriates funds sufficient for the program. The impact would vary from year to year depending on the number of hearing aides that are needed. There are about 2,350 hearing-impaired children attending public schools and receiving special education services.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education; Commission on Higher Education.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Chuck Mayfield, 317-232-4825.